## Respiratory Disease in Belgium



## Introduction

The IRC, a coalition of respiratory clinicians, patients and industry partners, aims to transform post-pandemic respiratory care and reduce mortality by a third globally by 2030 - in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The IRC is calling on governments and policy makers to establish funded national strategies, which include prevention, new models of care, ambitious measurable targets, and accountable leadership to improve lung health by focusing on:

## Better...

- 1. Prevention of respiratory diseases
- Access to the right treatment at the right time
- 3. Action on reducing inequalities
- 4. Prioritisation of research, data and insight to improve care

In Belgium, a national coalition for respiratory diseases, the Belgian Lung Foundation, has been set up and is already working closely with the Belgian Respiratory Society (BeRS) and establishing collaborations with various patient organisations, primary care organisations, associations active in disease prevention, environmental protection, and education.

The IRC welcomes the work on this initiative and is also committed to collaborating with all relevant stakeholders in promoting lung health across Belgium by developing national strategies.



## Societal economic cost by disease:



Asthma **E996.5 million** 



€5.0 billion



Lung Cancer **€6.5 billion** 





Lower respiratory tract infections €2.7 billion



Mesothelioma €222.9million



Tuberculosis €55.1 million



Interstitial lung disease €447.7 million



COVID-19 **€6.8 billion** 



Pulmonary arterial hypertension €39.2 million





**524.3 thousand**healthy life years lost to respiratory diseases





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